

Library

ST. NEOTS
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

THE
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health



AND
Surveyor & Chief Public Health
Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1959

ST. NEOTS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1959

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the district for the year 1959.

There has been little change in the general health of the population since my last report.

The Birth rate, although showing a slight decrease as compared with last year's figure, is still above the rate for the country as a whole.

The Death Rate indicates a decrease during the same period and now stands well below the national average.

Although five still births occurred during the year, it is a pleasing feature to note once again the complete absence of infant mortality—a state of affairs which reflects favourably on the medical facilities in the district.

There was a considerable increase in the number of notifications of infectious disease during 1959 as compared with the previous year, this being due in the main to an outbreak of measles, which occurred about mid-December, 1958, and extended into the new year, lasting until March, 1959. There was an increased incidence of food poisoning this year, mainly due to a localised outbreak at a residential school, where infection was of a mild nature and was adequately treated and controlled.

The water supply generally continues to be satisfactory, except in the higher parts of Kimbolton, Catworth and Stow Longa, but after prolonged negotiations, work should commence in 1960 to improve the position. It seems likely that the proposed Nene and Ouse Water Board will be formed by 1961.

The Sewerage Scheme Contract for the Kimbolton and Great Staughton area has now been in operation since April, 1959, and much progress has been made in Kimbolton in sewer laying and construction of pumping and disposal works. It is pleasing to note that the Council have agreed on a five-year programme for sewerage to follow the above-mentioned schemes, and in this programme the parishes of Little Paxton, Southoe and the Offords will be dealt with.

The first five-year Slum Clearance programme, which ends in December, 1960, has virtually been completed, and there is no great slum clearance problem in the district. The Council's policy for encouraging the improvement of houses by grants has greatly improved housing conditions in the district.

In conclusion, I should like to thank members of the Council for their consideration and kindness, and also all their officers for their continued help and co-operation.

Your obedient servant,

J. CALDWELL.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health.

J. CALDWELL, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P. & S., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector, Surveyor and Water Engineer :

M. FAWCETT, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

(Telephone St. Neots 402/3 and Buckden 282).

Additional Public Health Inspector and Assistant Surveyor :

D. F. SWEETING, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H. (Telephone : Kimbolton 303).

Water Superintendent :

W. A. COLES (Telephone: Eaton Socon 314).

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area : 52,559 acres (approximately 81 square miles).

Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1959 : 2,448.

Rateable Value of the District : £62,345.

Value of a Penny Rate : £247.

Estimated population (Mid 1959) : 7,510.

Estimated population (Mid 1958) : 7,450.

COMMITTEES CONCERNED WITH PUBLIC HEALTH

Housing and Public Health Committee :

Chairman : Councillor H. Storey, J.P.

Water and Sewage Committee :

Chairman : Councillor G. T. Ramply.

Finance and Rating Committee :

Chairman : Councillor H. Higgins.

Chairman of the Council :

Councillor : J. W. Cason.

Clerk to the Council :

D. J. Dear.

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS

| | M. | F. | Total | |
|-----------------|----|----|-------|----------------------------------|
| Legitimate .. | 57 | 57 | 114 | Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 esti- |
| | | | | mated population .. |
| Illegitimate .. | 3 | 2 | 5 | Comparability Factor .. |
| | | | | Corrected Birth Rate per |
| | | | | 1,000 estimated population |
| | | | | (Ditto for England and |
| Total .. | 60 | 59 | 119 | Wales) .. |

STILLBIRTHS

| | | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|---|----------------------------|
| Legitimate .. | 2 | 3 | 5 | Rate per 1,000 Total (Live |
| Illegitimate .. | — | — | — | and Still) Births .. |
| | | | | (Ditto for England and |
| Total .. | 2 | 3 | 5 | Wales) .. |

DEATHS (ALL AGES)

| | M. | F. | Total | |
|--|----|----|-------|----------------------------|
| | 36 | 33 | 69 | Crude Death Rate per 1,000 |
| | | | | estimated population .. |
| | | | | Comparability Factor .. |
| | | | | Corrected Death Rate per |
| | | | | 1,000 estimated population |
| | | | | (Ditto for England and |
| | | | | Wales) .. |

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR

| | M | F | Total |
|-----------------|---|---|-------|
| Legitimate .. | — | — | — |
| Illegitimate .. | — | — | — |
| | | | |
| Total .. | — | — | — |

DEATH RATES OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR

| | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|------|
| All infants per 1,000 live births | .. | .. | .. | Nil |
| (Ditto for England and Wales) | .. | .. | .. | 22.0 |
| Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births | .. | .. | .. | Nil |
| Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births | .. | .. | .. | Nil |

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE

| | M | F | Total |
|--------------|----|---|-------|
| Legitimate | .. | — | — |
| Illegitimate | .. | — | — |
| Total | .. | — | — |

CAUSES OF DEATH

(Registrar-General's List).

| List No. | Causes | Male | Female |
|------------------|---|-------|--------|
| 1 | Tuberculosis, respiratory | .. — | — |
| 2 | Tuberculosis, other | .. — | — |
| 3 | Syphilitic disease | .. — | — |
| 4 | Diphtheria | .. — | — |
| 5 | Whooping cough | .. — | — |
| 6 | Meningococcal infections | .. — | — |
| 7 | Acute Poliomyelitis | .. — | — |
| 8 | Measles | .. — | — |
| 9 | Other infective and parasitic diseases | .. — | — |
| 10 | Malignant neoplasm, stomach | .. — | 1 |
| 11 | Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus | .. 3 | — |
| 12 | Malignant neoplasm, breast | .. — | 2 |
| 13 | Malignant neoplasm, uterus | .. — | — |
| 14 | Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms | .. 5 | 3 |
| 15 | Leukaemia, aleukaemia | .. — | — |
| 16 | Diabetes | .. — | — |
| 17 | Vascular lesions of nervous system | .. 3 | 6 |
| 18 | Coronary disease, angina | .. 8 | 5 |
| 19 | Hypertension with heart disease | .. 1 | 2 |
| 20 | Other heart disease | .. 1 | 5 |
| 21 | Other circulatory diseases | .. 1 | 1 |
| 22 | Influenza | .. 2 | — |
| 23 | Pneumonia | .. — | — |
| 24 | Bronchitis | .. 2 | — |
| 25 | Other diseases of respiratory system | .. — | 1 |
| 26 | Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | .. — | — |
| 27 | Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea | .. — | — |
| 28 | Nephritis and nephrosis | .. — | — |
| 29 | Hyperplasia of prostate | .. 2 | — |
| 30 | Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion | .. — | — |
| 31 | Congenital malformations | .. 1 | — |
| 32 | Other defined and ill-defined diseases | .. 5 | 5 |
| 33 | Motor vehicle accidents | .. — | — |
| 34 | All other accidents | .. 2 | 1 |
| 35 | Suicide | .. — | 1 |
| 36 | Homicide and operations of war | .. — | — |
| Total all causes | | .. 36 | 33 |

TUBERCULOSIS.

Total number on Register at 31st December, 1959 : 62.

Non-Pulmonary : 10

Pulmonary : 52

| Age Periods | New Cases Diagnosed. | | | | New Cases—Transfers | | | |
|--------------|----------------------|----|----------|----|---------------------|----|----------|----|
| | Respiratory. | | Non-Res. | | Respiratory. | | Non-Res. | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 0 | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | 2 | | | | | | | |
| 20 | | | | | | | | |
| 25 | 1 | | | | | | | |
| 35 | 2 | 1 | | | | | | |
| 45 | | | | | | | | |
| 55 | 1 | | | | | | | |
| 65 & Upwards | | | | | | | | |
| Totals .. | 6 | 1 | Nil | — | — | — | — | — |

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952, in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

| | Total cases Notified. |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Scarlet Fever | 10 |
| Whooping Cough | 18 |
| Diphtheria | — |
| Measles | 136 |
| Acute Pneumonia | 6 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | — |
| Typhoid Fever | — |
| Erysipelas | 4 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | — |
| Infective Hepatitis | — |
| Food Poisoning | 18 |
| Dysentery | 3 |
| | — |
| | 195 |

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

The following Laboratory facilities have been available to this authority and to General Practitioners in the area :

Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge.
Tel. Cambridge 55526.

Public Analyst (S. Greenburgh, Ph D., B.Sc., F.I.C.), Tennison Rd.,
Cambridge. Tel. Cambridge 2097.

(b) Ambulance Services

Ambulances administered by the County Ambulance Service, operating in conjunction with the County Fire Service, have been available on doctors' orders (Tel. Huntingdon 348).

(c) Home Nursing

Nurse-Midwives employed and supervised by the Huntingdon County Council carried out Home Nursing and attended Maternity cases in the District :

- (i) A Nurse residing in Great Staughton (Tel. Kimbolton 271) attended cases in Great Staughton Kimbolton, Grafham, Perry, Tilbrook, Dillington and Hail Weston.
- (ii) A Nurse residing in Eltisley (Tel. Croxton 210) attended cases in Great Paxton, The Offords, Toseland, Yelling, Great Gransden, Waresley and Abbotsley.
- (iii) A Nurse residing in Brampton (Tel. Huntingdon 779) attended cases in Buckden and Diddington.
- (iv) Little Paxton and Southoe were attended by a Nurse living in St. Neots (Tel. St. Neots 215).

(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres

- (i) The following Health Services were provided by the Huntingdon County Council :—

| Clinic | Patients seen | When held | Where held |
|----------------|--|--|--|
| Minor Allments | Schoolchildren | 1st Thursday in month 10-11.30 a.m. | Liberal Club, St. Neots. |
| | | 1st Friday in month 10.30—11.30 a.m. Every Monday, 9.30—10.30 a.m. | Village Hall, Gt. Staughton. Old Grammar School, Huntingdon. |
| Infant Welfare | Children (0—5 years) | Every Wednesday and Thursday, 2—4 p.m. | Liberal Club, St. Neots. |
| | | 3rd Monday in month, 2—4 p.m. | Mandeville Hall, Kimbolton. |
| | | 3rd Tuesday in month, 2—4 p.m. | Methodist Schoolroom, Buckden. |
| | | 1st Friday in month, 2—4 p.m. | Village Hall, Gt. Staughton. |
| | | 3rd Monday in month, 2—4 p.m. | Reading Room, Gt. Gransden. |
| | | (Closed April, 1959) | |
| Dental | Pre-School and School- children. Pre-Natal and Nursing Mothers. | Every Tuesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. —12 noon. 1.30 — 4.30 p.m. | C. of E. Girls' School, Hunt- ingdon St., St. Neots. |
| | | Every Tuesday and Thursday 9 a.m.— 12 noon. 1.30—4.30 p.m. Every Saturday 9 a.m.— 12 noon. | 10a Princes' Street, Hunt- ingdon. |

- (ii) The following Health Services are provided by the Regional Hospital Board :

| Clinic | Patients seen | When held | Where held |
|--------|---------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Chest | All ages. | Every Thursday, 10 a.m.—12 noon. | County Hospital, Huntingdon |

| | | | |
|-------------------|---|--|--|
| Venereal Diseases | All cases | Mondays, 3—7 p.m. Wednesdays, 4—6.30 p.m. | Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge. |
| | | Males: | |
| | | Mondays, 5.30—7 p.m., Wednesdays, 5.30—7 p.m. | Out- Patients |
| | | Females : | Department, |
| | | Tuesdays, 10.30—12 noon. | Memorial Hospital, Peter- borough. |
| | | Thursdays, 5.30—7 p.m. | |
| Orthopaedic | Pre-School- and School- children. | 1st and 3rd Mon- days in month (Sis- ter). 10 a.m.—12 noon. Every Tuesday in month (Surgeon by appointment). 10 a.m.—12 noon. | Liberal Club, Market Sq., St. Neots. Old Grammar School Huntingdon. |

(iii) The following service is provided under the Supplementary Ophthalmic Scheme of the National Health Service :

| Clinic | Patients seen | When held | Where held |
|------------|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| Ophthalmic | Pre-School and School- children. | 1st and 3rd Fridays in month (by appoint- ment except in emergency). 10 a.m.— 12 noon, 2-3 p.m. | Old Grammar School, Huntingdon. |

Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedic, Paediatric, Skin, Obstetrical, Gynaecological and Dental Out-Patient Clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

(e) Hospital Services

Fever—Cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment are admitted to Isolation Hospitals at Cambridge, Peterborough and Ely. General Hospital Services were provided by the County Hospital, Huntingdon, and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge. Maternity Cases are admitted to Primrose Lane Maternity, Hospital, Huntingdon, and Mill Road Hospital, Cambridge.

REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR—YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1959.

WATER SUPPLY

During the year approximately 200 yards of iron water main was replaced with 3 ins. asbestos cement main in Hardwick Lane, Buckden, due to extensive corrosion.

A further short length of trunk main was diverted on the Great North Road, Buckden, in connection with the construction of new dual track carriage-ways. Co-operation with the County Surveyor's Department continued and alterations to water mains were agreed in connection with the proposed Buckden By-Pass which will be carried out by the County Council at the appropriate time.

Tenders were received during the year for the replacement of the existing 5 ins. main from Three Shire Hill to Tilbrook with an 8 ins. asbestos cement main. Included in this contract is a new 4 ins. main to connect Newtown, Kimbolton to Stonely, so that the township of Kimbolton can be isolated if necessary. As soon as Ministry

approval is received this work will be put in hand. A site for the 75,000 gallon water tower at Three Shire Hill has also been agreed.

With the sewerage of Great Staughton which is to take place in 1960, the Council decided that an improved water supply to this parish was essential to enable bathrooms, w.c.'s, etc., to be installed. A scheme was therefore submitted for Ministry approval showing the construction of a water tower at Perry and the laying of a new 6 ins. main from Perry to Great Staughton so that treated water from the Diddington source can be supplied to this area when necessary. The new tower will also serve the expanding Borstal Establishment at Gaynes Hall.

The Draft Order for the Nene and Ouse Water Board has now been prepared and is likely to be effective as from 1st January, 1961. In my opinion it is essential for the new board to operate as early as possible especially as the proposed Diddington Reservoir to serve large areas of Bedfordshire and Northamptonshire will be in the area of the new board.

Interruptions in the supply of water occurred on 69 occasions due to burst water mains and a further 34 communication pipes were repaired. 29 of these bursts occurred on the Kimbolton scheme, 15 on the Abbotsley, and 25 on the Buckden scheme. Most of the bursts were due to exterior corrosion of iron pipes or fittings, or cracked mains due to ground movement.

2,377 properties are now supplied with mains water leaving only 71 houses in outlying districts not enjoying this service. 46 houses were connected to the mains during the year and water was extended inside 40 houses from outside standpipes.

MAIN PIPED SUPPLIES

| Source of Supply. | Parishes Supplied. | Daily Consumption. |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| a. South Cambs. R.D.C. | Abbotsley, Waresley, Gt. Gransden Tetworth and Part of Eynesbury Hardwicke. | 35,025 galls. |
| b. Raunds U.D.C. | Kimbolton, Covington, Catworth, Tilbrook and Stow Longa. | 57,430 galls. |
| c. Diddington (St. Neots R.D.C.) | Buckden, Diddington, Grafham, Southoe, Lt. Paxton, Hail Weston, Offords, Gt. Paxton, Toseland, Yelling and parts of Perry. | 132,200 galls. |
| d. Staughton Moor (St. Neots R.D.C.) | Gt. Staughton and parts of Perry | 18,411 galls. (estimated) |
| e. St. Neots U.D.C. | St. Neots Rural and Eynesbury Hardwicke. | Not known. |

H.M. Borstal Institution, Gaynes Hall, has been supplied entirely from Diddington.

Godmanchester Borough have been supplied with 1,600 gallons per day and Hargrave Parish has been supplied with 6,700 gallons per day.

The daily amount of water supplied increased by 3 gallons per head per day for all purposes, making a total of 33 gallons per head per day; unmetered supply accounting for 20½ gallons per head per day, which is an increase of 1 gallon p.h. p.d.

ANNUAL RAINFALL at Great Gransden Hall, 17.83 inches. This is only 85% of normal rainfall and rain fell on 127 days.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF RAW WATER.

10 satisfactory samples were obtained from the Diddington well. Staughton Moor supply still receives no treatment.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS ON TREATED WATER.

Satisfactory samples were obtained during the year as follows:— South Cambs. R.D.C. 12 samples, Raunds U.D.C. 13 samples, Diddington 17 samples, Great Staughton 12 samples. In addition 3 from Diddington were classified as doubtful or unsatisfactory after passing house storage tanks. All samples taken direct from the main at the same time were satisfactory and consequently action was taken for the cleansing of storage tanks and for at least one tap in each house to be taken direct from the main.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

One satisfactory routine sample was taken from each of the four main water schemes.

PRIVATE WELLS.

Wells cleansed and repaired: Nil, Wells closed as polluted: Nil. Private samples taken: 3—all were found to be unsatisfactory and all the premises concerned have a main water supply which is satisfactory, and the wells concerned are only used for other purposes.

SWIMMING POOLS.

There are five private swimming pools in the area which are visited from time to time but no conditions were found which were unsatisfactory.

SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Buckden Sewerage Scheme was completed during the year and the conversion of e.c.'s to w.c.'s progressed satisfactorily along with many other improvements including bathrooms. At the end of 1959 there were only five or six cases where w.c.'s had not been provided and in every case the work was ordered and was only waiting for the builder to be able to commence work.

In March, 1959, work was commenced on the Kimbolton portion of the joint sewerage scheme, and by the end of the year most of the sewers in Kimbolton had been laid and the major portion of the sewage works completed. Stonely Pumping Station was also commenced. Early in 1960 sewer laying in Great Staughton will be started. A start has been made in Kimbolton with the laying of drain connections.

St. Neots U.D.C. commenced to enlarge their works during the year so that it will be possible for the Council to carry out their sewerage proposals for Little Paxton and Southoe in the near future.

The Council have adopted a 5 year sewerage programme which covers the parishes of Kimbolton, Great Staughton, Offords, Little Paxton and Southoe.

4 piped sewers received attention during the year along with the cleansing of 3 open ditches. Sewage works on the Council's housing sites are regularly dealt with by the Council's cesspool emptier, as one day per week is set aside for this work. 8 repairs were carried out to sewage works. 40 private cesspools and 110 Council cesspools or sewerage tanks were cleansed during the year.

STATISTICS OF WATER SUPPLIES, W.C.'s, E.C.'s, BATHS, Etc.

| | 1959 | | | | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------|------------|------|-------|--------|-------|
| | Water Supply Council | | | | | | |
| | No. of Properties | In-side | Stand-pipe | P.W. | W.C.s | E.C.s. | Baths |
| Abbotsley | 95 | 94 | — | 1 | 51 | 44 | 54 |
| Buckden | 364 | 341 | 15 | 8 | 312 | 52 | 251 |
| Catworth | 95 | 88 | 4 | 3 | 44 | 51 | 43 |
| Covington | 31 | 27 | 1 | 3 | 21 | 10 | 21 |
| Diddington | 46 | 45 | — | 1 | 8 | 38 | 7 |
| Eynesbury Hardwicke | 34 | 34 | — | — | 22 | 12 | 24 |
| Grafham | 71 | 70 | 1 | — | 22 | 49 | 23 |
| Gransden, Gt. | 177 | 170 | 3 | 4 | 117 | 60 | 120 |
| Gt. Staughton | 276 | 243 | 24 | 9 | 153 | 123 | 177 |
| Gt. Paxton | 127 | 127 | — | — | 83 | 44 | 87 |
| Hail Weston | 103 | 99 | 4 | — | 56 | 47 | 63 |
| Kimbolton | 280 | 272 | 7 | 1 | 215 | 65 | 197 |
| Lt. Paxton | 112 | 109 | — | 3 | 95 | 17 | 97 |
| Offord Darcy | 105 | 98 | 4 | 3 | 58 | 47 | 61 |
| Offord Cluny | 107 | 96 | 5 | 6 | 65 | 42 | 68 |
| Southoe-Midloe | 82 | 67 | 11 | 4 | 29 | 53 | 39 |
| Stow Longa | 30 | 20 | — | — | 13 | 17 | 16 |
| St. Neots Rural | 20 | 20 | — | — | 17 | 3 | 15 |
| Tetworth | 31 | 21 | — | 10 | 20 | 11 | 20 |
| Toseland | 42 | 36 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 35 | 9 |
| Tilbrook | 79 | 73 | 5 | 1 | 54 | 25 | 57 |
| Waresley | 62 | 52 | — | 10 | 36 | 26 | 41 |
| Yelling | 79 | 76 | — | 3 | 33 | 46 | 40 |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|------|------|----|----|------|-----|------|
| Totals for 1959 | 2448 | 2288 | 89 | 71 | 1531 | 917 | 1530 |
|-----------------|------|------|----|----|------|-----|------|

2448

2448

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|------|------|-----|----|------|------|------|
| Totals for 1958 | 2452 | 2242 | 129 | 81 | 1433 | 1019 | 1449 |
|-----------------|------|------|-----|----|------|------|------|

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|
| Differences | 4+ | 46— | 40— | 10+ | 98— | 102+ | 81+ |
|-------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|

97% of houses have a mains water supply.

93.5% of houses have a mains water supply inside house.

62% of houses have a W.C.

62% of houses have a bath.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

There were no changes in circumstances during the year and the position is as outlined in the 1958 report.

The average cost of dealing with each dustbin or pail is 10d.; an increase of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. over 1958. No salvage was dealt with during the year apart from a small quantity of scrap metal from the Housing and Water Departments.

LITTER.

Further litter baskets have been provided at Catworth. Once again it is a pleasure to report no serious nuisance from litter in the area, and the fact that two parishes were placed second in the County "Tidy Village Contest" — the parishes being Offord Darcy and Kimbolton.

PETROLEUM STORAGE LICENCES.

One new licence was issued in 1959. 58 were renewed during the year, making a total of 59 on the register.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

30 licences were issued during the year, covering a total of 69 caravans now authorised by these licences. 8 improvements of conditions were made and generally the caravans are maintained in good condition.

COUNCIL HOUSE MAINTENANCE.

2,085 inspections were made and 777 orders were issued for repairs. 7 houses have been provided with hot water systems and 4 houses with approved solid fuel cooking appliances. Schemes for bathrooms at 20 Council houses, Kimbolton, have been prepared and submitted for Ministry approval.

NEW BUILDINGS.

153 plans of new buildings or alterations were deposited and 890 visits were paid to works in progress.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

15 retailers are registered with the Council. On the 1st October, 1956, this district was included in a "Specified Area" under Section 41 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. 15 licences for pasteurised, 13 for tuberculin tested and 8 for sterilised milks were issued. 5 inspections of premises were carried out, and 3 bacteriological milk samples were taken, all of which were satisfactory.

FOOD INSPECTIONS, INCLUDING SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

36 inspections of food premises were made and improvements continued to be made.

The conditions outlined in the 1957 report are unchanged and 2 cwt. 9 lbs. of foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

Four samples of ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination and all were reported as satisfactory.

Cases of food poisoning (suspected) were visited with the Medical Officer of Health. 128 visits were paid to the Slaughterhouses for the purpose of meat inspections. The licences of 5 slaughtermen were renewed on the 1st October, 1959.

CARCASES & OFFAL INSPECTED & CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR PART

| | Cattle Excluding Cows Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs | Horses |
|---|----------------------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|------|--------|
| Number killed (if known) | 66 | Nil | Nil | 256 | Nil | Nil |
| Number inspected | 66 | Nil | Nil | 256 | Nil | Nil |
| All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci. | | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned | 9 | Nil | Nil | 6 | Nil | Nil |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci | 14 % | Nil | Nil | 2 % | Nil | Nil |
| Tuberculosis only. | | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Cysticercosis. | | | | | | |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Generalised and totally condemned | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |

NEW HOUSING.

No new Council houses were completed during 1959, although four new bungalows were commenced in Buckden. The Council have now built and completed 317 new houses since 1945, and they own 503 houses altogether. In addition the Council own 20 pre-fabricated bungalows. 30 new private enterprise houses were completed during the year.

HOUSING INSPECTIONS.

Further progress was made on the 5 Year Slum Clearance Programme as detailed later in the report and by the end of the five year period ending on the 31st December, 1960, Slum Clearance will have been virtually completed. Many of these houses have been tenanted by old people who had no desire to move to better accommodation and the normal policy of the Council in such cases is to deal with the houses when they fall vacant.

Further progress has been made with improvement grant schemes, both standard and discretionary. 17 approved schemes were completed during 1959, making a total of 153 schemes completed and grants paid since the date of the Acts. Other approved schemes were in an advanced stage at the end of the year.

HOUSING TABLE

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

| | | |
|---------|---|------|
| (1) (a) | Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .. | 321 |
| (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose .. | 1263 |
| (2) | Total number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .. | 10 |
| (3) | Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .. | 44 |

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices:—

| | | |
|-----|---|----|
| (a) | Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers, excluding those dealt with by Improvement Grants | 99 |
| (b) | Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit with the assistance of Improvement Grants .. | 17 |

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, 16 and 24 of the Housing Act, 1957 :—

| | | |
|-----|--|-----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .. | Nil |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :— | |
| (a) | By owners .. | 16 |
| (b) | By Local Authority in default of owners .. | Nil |

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

| | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .. | 14 |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :— | |
| (a) | By owners .. | 34 |
| (b) | By Local Authority in default of owners .. | Nil |

(C) Proceedings under Sections 17, 26 and 28 of the Housing Act, 1957 :—

| | | |
|-----|--|----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .. | 6 |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .. | 19 |
| (3) | Number of houses closed during the year .. | 4 |
| (4) | Number of families displaced during the year .. | 10 |

(D) Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957 :—

| | | |
|-----|--|-----|
| (1) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .. | Nil |
| (2) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit .. | Nil |

(E) Proceedings under Part III of the Housing Act, 1957—

CLEARANCE AREAS :—

| | | |
|---|-----|-----|
| (1) Number of Clearance Areas declared during the year | .. | Nil |
| (2) Total number of houses included in (1) above | ... | Nil |
| (3) Number of houses included by reason of unfitness for human habitation | ... | Nil |
| (4) Number of houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc. | ... | Nil |
| (5) Number of families displaced during the year | .. | Nil |
| (6) Number of houses demolished during the year | .. | Nil |

4. Housing Act, 1957—Part IV, Overcrowding :—

| | | | |
|-----|--|-----|-----|
| (a) | (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | 1 | |
| | (ii) Number of families dwelling therein | ... | 1 |
| | (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein | ... | 4 |
| (b) | Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the yr. | Nil | |
| (c) | (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the yr. | Nil | |
| | (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases | .. | Nil |
| (d) | Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding | ... | Nil |
| (e) | Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report | ... | Nil |

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949
REPORT FOR 9 MONTHS ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1959
 No. of houses inspected : 329.
 No. of houses treated and cleared : 191.

| Total No. of properties inspected | Total No. of major rat infesta- tions found | Total No. of minor rat infesta- tions found | No. of mice infesta- tions found | No. of in- fested pro- perties treated | No. of notices served under Section 4 |
|---|--|--|--|---|--|
| 454 | 6 | 92 | 6 | 300+ | NIL |

+ Of these, nine were business premises, five were agricultural pre-
 mises, 15 were Council properties (excluding houses) and eight were
 block control schemes.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including in-
 spections made by Public Health Inspectors).

| Premises (1) | Number on Register (2) | Number of Inspec- tions (3) | Written notices (4) | Occupiers prosecuted (5) |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. | 22 | 9 | Nil | Nil |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. | 35 | 2 | Nil | Nil |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers' premises) .. | 12 | 22 | Nil | Nil |
| Total .. | 69 | 33 | Nil | Nil |

Arising out of the above inspections unsuitable or defective
 Sanitary Conveniences were found at one factory and subsequently
 remedied.

OUTWORKERS.

Number of outworkers on August list required by Section 110
 were as follows :—

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Wearing Apparel, Making, etc .. | 4 |
| Lace, lace curtains and nets .. | 2 |
| The making of boxes, etc. .. | 3 |
| Total .. | 9 |

No cases of default in sending in lists were known, there were
 no prosecutions and no instances of work in unwholesome premises.

ANALYSIS OF INSPECTIONS MADE :—

| | | |
|--|----|------|
| Smoke Observations, etc. | .. | 1 |
| Housing | .. | 289 |
| Council House Maintenance | .. | 2085 |
| Houses, etc., Under P.H. Act, 1936 | .. | 362 |
| Houses, etc., Under P.H. Act, 1936, revisits | .. | 736 |
| Supervision erection of new buildings | .. | 890 |
| Sewers and Sewage Disposal | .. | 843 |
| Post-war housing | .. | 89 |
| Dairies | .. | 5 |
| Drains Tested | .. | 267 |
| Infectious Disease | .. | 9 |
| Water Supply | .. | 613 |
| Scavenging | .. | 86 |
| Food Premises, Vehicles, etc. | .. | 36 |
| Rats and Mice (Inspectors and Operator) | .. | 491 |
| Miscellaneous | .. | 60 |
| Moveable Dwellings | .. | 76 |
| Factories | .. | 33 |
| Food Poisoning | .. | 5 |
| Housing Applications | .. | 52 |
| Outworkers | .. | 9 |
| Petroleum | .. | 25 |
| Overcrowding | .. | 6 |
| Slaughterhouses | .. | 123 |
| Ice Cream samples taken | .. | 4 |
| Milk samples taken | .. | 3 |
| Water samples taken (Bacteriological) | .. | 67 |
| Water samples taken (Chemical) | .. | 4 |

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION, ETC. :—

| | | |
|---|----|------|
| Number of houses with pail or tub closets in area | .. | 917 |
| Number of houses with W.C.'s in area | .. | 1531 |
| Number of pails reconstructed as W.C.'s in 1959 | .. | 68 |
| Number of W.C.'s constructed in 1959 for new premises | .. | 30 |

